



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 23, 1998

### **H.R. 4377**

#### **A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the membership of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission to 17**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means on September 18, 1998*

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would increase spending by \$15,000 in 1999 and by about \$30,000 annually in subsequent years, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Because the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 4377 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 4377 would expand the membership of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) by two, from 15 to 17. The terms of the new members would begin on May 1, 1999. MedPAC expects spending for members' compensation and travel to average less than \$15,000 per commissioner in 1998 and 1999. Therefore, the bill would increase MedPAC spending by \$15,000 (half the annual cost of two commissioners) in 1999, and by \$30,000 in subsequent years.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Tom Bradley. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.